

A. Solar Schools Program

~~Pursuant to Interagency Agreement No. R500-02-006, the Energy Commission and the California Power Authority have established the Solar Schools Program to provide a higher level of funding for public schools and encourage the installation of photovoltaic generating systems at more school sites. The Solar Schools Program was intended to be funded from the Emerging Renewables Program funds and the Attorney General's Alternative Energy Retrofit Account (AGAERA). At this time, the Energy Commission has been unable to secure budget authority from the Department of Finance to disburse the funds from the AGAERA account. Consequently, the Energy Commission has suspended the program at this time until budget authority and a variety of other issues are resolved.~~

A. Special Funding for Public Schools

Pursuant to Interagency Agreement No. R500-02-006, amended February 4, 2004, the Energy Commission and the California Power Authority have established the Solar Schools Program to provide a higher level of funding for public and charter schools and encourage the installation of photovoltaic generating systems at more school sites. In 2002, the Energy Commission was unable to secure budget authority from the Department of Finance to expend the funds from the Attorney General's Alternative Energy Retrofit Account (AGAERA). The additional funds for the Solar Schools Program total \$2.25 million and are now available from the AGAERA. Fifteen schools were granted preliminary reservations in 2002 that could not be funded under the Solar Schools Program. These districts will be given preference until June 21, 2004 to reapply to this program for the sites for which they originally applied.

Installations of photovoltaic systems at school sites totaling less than 30 kilowatts in size per school district may qualify for additional funding from the AGAERA equal to the standard rebate offered to other ERP applicants for photovoltaic systems. If the standard rebate available is \$3.20 per watt, the rebate available for an eligible public school would be \$6.40 per watt. However, the total funding incentive (Energy Commission plus AGAERA funds) may not exceed the total installed system cost. To further assist schools, any costs above the total rebate incentive may be financed through a loan from the Energy Commission's Energy Efficiency Financing Program or through a loan from another public agency. Such loans will not be considered in adjusting the ERP rebate level available for the school. Schools approved for the additional incentives will be given 18 month reservations.

1. Requirements for the Solar Schools Program

To be eligible, schools must show they meet all eligibility requirements for the standard rebate and demonstrate they meet the following additional criteria:

- The public school provides, or will provide, instruction for any grade between kindergarten through 12th grade
- The school has already installed high efficiency fluorescent lighting (T8 lamps and electronic ballasts) in at least 80% of classrooms or has implemented other energy efficient measures with equivalent or greater energy savings as determined by the Energy Commission
- The school agrees to establish a curriculum tie-in plan to educate students on the benefits of solar energy and energy conservation

Schools that do not meet the requirements of the Solar Schools Program may still qualify for the standard rebate offered. Schools with an existing standard rebate reservation may reapply for the higher rebate if the system has not been completed. Schools that were granted preliminary reservations in 2002 may reapply for the higher rebate even if the system has been completed. To reapply, submit a completed preliminary reservation request form and a new CEC 1038-R1 form.

2. How to Apply to the Solar Schools Program

To obtain the full reservation for the additional rebate incentive, participating school districts must submit a complete standard application (CEC 1038-R1 and supporting documents) and provide the following additional information for each school where a system is planned:

Solar Schools Reservation Form - Complete the Solar Schools Reservation Request Form identifying the planned sites for installation.

Proof of Energy Efficiency - Check the box on the Solar Schools Reservation request form indicating that the energy efficient lighting measures already installed comply with the high efficiency lighting requirement (T8 lamps and electronic ballasts) or provide additional documentation to show that other energy efficient measures with equivalent or greater energy savings have been installed. For further information on energy efficiency, please contact the Energy Commission at (916) 654-3838.

School Board Resolution – Provide a signed board resolution clearly indicating all of the following:

- Intent to purchase and install an eligible photovoltaic system at the specified site(s)
- Support to operate and maintain the system for its useful life

- School commitment to establish a curriculum tie-in plan to educate students on the benefits of solar energy and energy conservation

The Solar Schools Reservation Request form is included in Appendix A of this guidebook. The form and attachments must be mailed to:

ERP Schools
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street, MS-45
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Preliminary Reservation Option

If the funding is not entirely reserved by applicants meeting the all of the above criteria, a preliminary reservation may be given to school districts that are initially able to provide all of the following information, but have not yet signed a system purchase and installation agreement(s):

- Solar Schools Reservation Form
- Proof of meeting the energy efficiency criteria
- Board resolution
- Electric utility bill for each school

The preliminary reservation would allow the school district four months to solicit bids and contract for a system purchase and to complete their application.

To secure the full reservation for a participating school, the reservation request form (CEC 1038-R1) must be submitted before expiration of the preliminary reservation. The required attachment to the completed R1 form is a copy of the agreement(s) to purchase and install the specified system. Preference will be given to those applicants meeting the full reservation criteria.

Payment Requests and Forms

To request the rebate payment once the system is installed, the applicant must submit the payment claim form (CEC 1038-R2) with the same attachments required for any other participant in the Emerging Renewables Program.

Blank forms for requesting a reservation or filing for payment can be obtained by calling the Energy Commission call center at 1-800-555-7794 or from the Energy Commission web site at:

<http://www.consumerenergycenter.org/erprebate/index.html>

No funds will be reserved until all the information and documentation required for the preliminary reservation request and/or standard reservation request is received by the Energy Commission. Applications will not be processed if they are not complete and legible.



Solar Schools Reservation Request Form

For detailed instructions on completing this form, please see the Guidebook for the Emerging Renewables Program. The guidebook is available at www.consumerenergycenter.org/erprebate or by calling the California Energy Commission's Call Center at 1-800-555-7794

Completed forms must be mailed to:

ERP Schools
California Energy Commission
1516 9th Street, MS-45
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Payee Designation:

Reserve rebate for: ☒ School District

1. School District

District Name:

Contact Person:

Mailing Address:

Business: () Fax: ()

Email:

2. Participating Schools

School Name:

Address:

Business: () Fax: ()

Email:

Estimated size of photovoltaic system: Watts.

School Name:

Address:

Business: () Fax: ()

Email:

Estimated size of photovoltaic system: Watts.

School Name:

Address:

Business: () Fax: ()

Email:

Estimated size of photovoltaic system: Watts.

3. Utility Provider

Electric Utility Provider: ☐ PG&E ☐ SCE
☐ SDG&E

4. Program Information

How did you hear about our program?

Have you previously applied for funding rebates from the ERP?

☐ yes ☐ no If yes, reservation #

5. Statement of energy efficient measures

For each of the participating schools identified on this form check the appropriate box:

- ☐ At least 80% of the classrooms use high efficiency fluorescent lighting (T8 lamps and electronic ballasts).
☐ Other energy efficient measures with equivalent or greater energy savings to Item 1 (as determined by the Commission) are in use (documentation attached).

6. Incentive Requested

Sum of Total Watts

Total Incentive Requested \$

- ☐ Full reservation request (CEC 1038 R1 and supporting documentation for each site attached) or:
☐ Preliminary 4 month reservation request

NOTE: Sum of all new systems installed in school district may not exceed 30 kW.

7. Information for Additional Schools

☐ See attached for information on other schools submitted with this application (name, address, phone, estimated size of system, signature of school official).

Declaration: The undersigned declare under penalty of perjury that 1) the information provided in this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, 2) the above described generating system is intended primarily to offset part or all of the school's electrical needs at the site of installation, 3) the site of installation is located within service territory of an eligible electric utility.

School District representative

Print Name

Signature

Date

CEC Review

IMPORTANT: Attach the following minimum documentation: (1) a signed copy of the board resolution(s) indicating support for the solar project and intent to purchase a photovoltaic system; (2) a copy of a monthly electricity statement; (3) evidence that energy efficient measures equivalent to the use of high efficiency fluorescent lighting in 80 percent of the school's classrooms. This form will not be processed without the required attachments.